



Face *to* Face

APPEAL FOR COMMUNITY, VULNERABILITY, AND IN-PERSON FELLOWSHIP

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. Remain in me, as I also remain in you... No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.”

John 15:1,4

He is the Vine. We are the Branches.

We need God and each other.

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We are parts of the same body,
each with unique gifts.

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Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.

1 Corinthians 12:12-14

Building a Dream Team

One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God. When morning came, he called his disciples to him and chose twelve of them, whom he also designated apostles: Simon (whom he named Peter), his brother Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Simon who was called the Zealot, Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.'

Luke 6:12-16

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The Dream Team



Face to Face



The Dream Team

1992 Summer Olympics in Spain

11 of the 12 members of the team were later
inducted into the Hall of Fame

Won the Gold medal and defeated their opponents
by an average of 44 points a game



1972 Dolphins



Only team to ever go undefeated in the NFL

"Win with good people, the collective strength of the team is more important than individual stars, as the strength of the team is each individual member".

-Coach Don Shula-

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Miracle on Ice



1980 Winter Olympics in New York

The Soviet team was heavily favored and had not lost an Olympic game in 12 years

The American team consisted of mostly amateurs and was the youngest team ever sent to the olympics.

It was dubbed by Sports Illustrated the top sports moment of the 20th Century

Face to Face

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The strength of the team lies within the individual. And the strength of the individual lies within the team.

PHIL JACKSON

GRACIOUSQUOTES.COM

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Good teams become great ones when the members trust each other enough to surrender the 'Me' for the 'We.'

PHIL JACKSON

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Disciples:

Greek word mathētēs. Learner or follower

Hebrew word: Talmid (תַּלְמִיד), also meaning "student" or "learner". A talmid was not just someone who learned facts, but a devoted apprentice who sought to imitate the life, actions, and even the very worldview of their teacher, the rav or Rabbi.

Apostle

originates from the Greek word *apóstolos*, which means "one who is sent out" or "messenger".

In classical Greek, *apóstolos* had a broader sense than a mere messenger, denoting a delegate or a representative of the person or authority who sent them.

Apostolic sending. It means to be sent from a place to another place. To reproduce the idea, message or culture from where you have been sent from, into the place you are being sent to.

-Kris Vallaton-

In a modern non spiritual context this can look like franchising. If you walk into nearly any Chik-fil-a you'll see the same, menu items, color schemes, and hear “my pleasure”. It's culture is able to be replicated.

Jesus very intentionally calls the 12 around Him not just disciples but apostles - a secular word. In practicality he's calling them not just to be a team around him, but to be able to replicate teams around them as well.

To become a disciple of a rabbi or priest you had to talk like your master, dress like your master and devote your life to become like your master. It was an incredibly difficult and demanding job that could last decades.

Jesus combines discipleship (Come follow me and I will make you fishers of men. Matt 4:19) with the apostolic (Therefore go and make disciples ...Matt 28:19). Interestingly He does so by using a Hebrew word/concept and a greek word/concept.

So being a part of a church is to be a part of a body,
to be a branch connected by the vine (Jesus), and to
be part of an amazing team. Why though?

Being a part of the church is coming before His throne to lay down all of our burdens, worries and cares.

Being rebuilt in the image of Christ and dwelling in His presence.

Sharing that with the world around us to see transformation.



“No one lights a lamp and hides it in a clay jar or puts it under a bed. Instead, they put it on a stand, so that those who come in can see the light.”

Luke 8:16

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“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.”

Matthew 5:14-15

Even the best can't do it on their own



Face to Face

Ideas and vision can come from a lone source, but implementing change takes great teamwork.

Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Galilee. It happened this way...

John 21:1

Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day's walk from the city.

Acts 1:12

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They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Acts 2:42

Great teams practice and then practice some more. They do it so that they will be ready for the time they are needed to use their gifts for the good of themselves, their coach, and their teammates.

Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor. For if either of them falls, the one will lift up his companion. But woe to the one who falls when there is not another to lift him up.

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

Let's continue towards being the best team we can be for God, each other, and our community.